

Recent Investments in Transit Safety and Security

City Council has made a number of critical investments over the past several years to enhance transit safety and security. These investments have addressed important foundational elements by increasing security personnel, supporting vulnerable populations, and addressing technology and infrastructure gaps.

These investments include:

- Increasing the number of Transit Peace Officers.
- Establishing the Community Outreach Transit Teams (COTT).
- Introducing security guards in transit spaces as an additional layer of security personnel.
- Creating a three-year Transit Safety Director position to oversee implementation of the Transit Safety Plan.
- Implementing operator compartment shields on all buses to protect transit operators.
- Installing cameras on the full bus fleet.
- Creating a washroom attendant program.

Administration has also advanced several initiatives within existing resources.

These initiatives include:

- Developing artificial intelligence tools to assist with deployment.
- Adding a text option for Transit Watch.
- Advertising campaigns to inform riders of transit safety tools.
- Implementing drug poisoning prevention teams.
- Conducting a comprehensive review of bylaws related to public places.
- Increasing dispatching capacity.
- Expanding school outreach.
- Station announcements to create a family-friendly environment.

Several initiatives have been supported with funding from external sources, including a grant from the Government of Canada to renovate the 101 Street shelter to improve environmental design, and a grant from the Government of Alberta to support cleaning and related improvements to transit facilities.